## Delaware's Recreational Season, Size and Creel Limits 2010 Quick Reference

Smallmouth bass  All year    12 inches; except 15 inches 6; except 2 from Becks in Becks Pond   2		Species Open Season Minimum Size			Daily Limit	
Smallmouth hass Milyear inches inches)  Striped bass hybrid of the cover in John Pound of the part of the probability of the part of the probability of the part o	Non - tidal Waters	The second second			12 inches; except 15 inches	6; except 2 from Becks
Trout topesial miss apply)  American eel  All year  American & hickory shad  American & hickory shad  American & hickory shad  All year  Black drum  All year  All year  All year  All year  Black sea bass  Opens May 22 - Oct 11; Nov. 1 - Dec. 31  Bluefish  All year  None  Closed - no harvest permitted  All year  None  10  Catfish (my squeine)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  All year  None  All year  None  Red drum  All year  None  All year  None  10  Catfish (my squeine)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  None  All year  None  Spanish mackered  All year  All year  All year  All year  None  Spanish mackered  All year  All year  All year  All year  14 inches  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds April 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Summer flounder  July 1 - Aug. 31 in Der River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder  All year  None  All year  April 1 - May 11   15 inches  Tautog  April 1 - May 11   14 inches  10  Weakfish  All year  None  All year  All year  All year  April 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Weakfish  All year  None  None  Pots: Mar. 1 - See, 11 - Apr. 10   12 inches  None  None  None  None  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds april 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Fishing ficense is flower Sunds & History Department of the See.  None  None  None  Pots: Mar. 1 - None  None  None  None  10  None  10  None  10  None  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds april 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Fishing ficense is flower Sunds & History Department of History Department of History Department of History Department of See.  None  None  None  10  None  10  None  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds april 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Fishing ficense is flower Sunds & History Department of History Sunds & His			Smallmouth bass	All year		`
Trout topesial miss apply)  American eel  All year  American & hickory shad  American & hickory shad  American & hickory shad  All year  Black drum  All year  All year  All year  All year  Black sea bass  Opens May 22 - Oct 11; Nov. 1 - Dec. 31  Bluefish  All year  None  Closed - no harvest permitted  All year  None  10  Catfish (my squeine)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  All year  None  All year  None  Red drum  All year  None  All year  None  10  Catfish (my squeine)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  None  All year  None  Spanish mackered  All year  All year  All year  All year  None  Spanish mackered  All year  All year  All year  All year  14 inches  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds April 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Summer flounder  July 1 - Aug. 31 in Der River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder  All year  None  All year  April 1 - May 11   15 inches  Tautog  April 1 - May 11   14 inches  10  Weakfish  All year  None  All year  All year  All year  April 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Weakfish  All year  None  None  Pots: Mar. 1 - See, 11 - Apr. 10   12 inches  None  None  None  None  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds april 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Fishing ficense is flower Sunds & History Department of the See.  None  None  None  Pots: Mar. 1 - None  None  None  None  10  None  10  None  10  None  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds april 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Fishing ficense is flower Sunds & History Department of History Department of History Department of History Department of See.  None  None  None  10  None  10  None  10  None  2 except catch & release only on spawning grounds april 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Guide page 18)  Fishing ficense is flower Sunds & History Department of History Sunds & His				All year	15 inches	2
American eel All year 6 inches 50  American & hickory shad 7 Closed Namitooke R. & tis tribs. Open all year elsewhere 8 inches 7 None 10 in any combination elsewhere 8 inches 7 None 10 in any combination 10 in any combin			pumpkinseed, redear, crappie,	All year	None	`
American & hickory shad  All year  Atlantic croaker  Atlantic sturgeon  Atlantic sturgeon  Atlantic sturgeon  Black drum  All year  Black sea hass  Opens May 22 - Oct 11; Nov. 1 - Dec. 31  Bluefish  All year  None  Closed - no harvest permitted  10  Catfish (any species)  All year  None  None  Catfish (any species)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  All year  None  All year  None  All year  None  10  Catfish (any species)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  All year  None  All year  None  10  All year  Seup  All year  Spanish mackerel  Spotted seatrout  All year  All year  All year  All year  All year  Striped bass  All year  April 1 - May 11  Symmer flounder  April 1 - May 11  Symmer flounder  April 1 - May 11  Symmer flounder  April 1 - May 11  April 1 - May 11  April 1 - May 11  April 1 - Aug 31  April 3 - Aug 31  April 4 inches  10  Weakfish  All year  All inches  All year  All year  All inches  All year  All year  All inches  All year  All year  All year  All year  Al			Trout (special rules apply)	•	None	
American & hickory shad with the property of t			American eel	All year	6 inches	50
Allantic sturgeon  Black drum  All year  Black sea bass  Opens May 22 - Oet 11; Nov. 1 - Dec. 31  Bluefish  All year  None  10  Catfish (mwyspecies)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  All year  None  River herring (alewife & blueback)  Scup  All year  All year  None  10  Scup  All year  None  10  Scup  All year  None  10  Spanish mackerel  All year  All year  12 inches  None  28 inches  50  Spotted seatrout  All year  12 inches  None  28 inches, except only 20 - 26 inch fish may be retained from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder  Summer flounder  Jan. 1 - Oct. 12  18.5 inches  4  April 1 - May 11  Sinches  3  July 1 - Aug. 31  April 1 - May 31 (see Fishing Gride page 18)  Weakfish  All year  13 inches  1  Weakfish  All year  None  None  Winter flounder  Schark, tuna & billfish  Pots: Mar. 1 - Nov. 30; other gears year around  fishing fleense is now required to fish for blue crabs and claims  All year  1.5 inches  100/resident; 50/non- resident			•	R. & its tribs.; Open all year	None	10 in any combination
Black drum  All year  Opens May 22 - Oct 11; Nov. 1 - Dec. 31  Bluefish  All year  None  10  Catfish (may species)  All year  None  Red drum  All year  All year  None  None  Red drum  All year  All year  None  10  Scup  All year  None  10  Scup  All year  None  10  Scup  All year  All year  Spanish mackerel  Spotted scatrout  All year  April 1 - May 11  Sept. 29 - Mar. 31  April 1 - May 31  April 3 inches  April 3 inches  April 4 inches  10  April 5 inches  April 6 inches  April 1 - May 31  April 1 - May 31  April 1 - May 31  April 3 inches  April 4 inches  April 5 inches  April 6 inches  April 1 - May 31  Ap			Atlantic croaker	All year	8 inches	None
Black sea bass Opens May 22 - Oct 11; Nov. 1 - Dec. 31  Bluefish All year None 10  Catfish (any species) All year None None  Red drum All year Supported to the back of the problem of the			Atlantic sturgeon		Closed - no harvest perm	nitted
Black sea bass Oct 11; Nov. 1 - 12.5 inches 25  Bluefish All year None 10  Catfish (any species) All year None None  Red drum All year 20 - 27 inches may be retained River herring (alevife & blueback) Scup All year None 10  Scup All year 8 inches 50  Spanish mackerel All year 14 inches 10 Spotted seatrout All year 12 inches None  Striped bass All year 12 inches None  Striped bass All year 12 inches April 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder Jan. 1 - Oct. 12 18.5 inches 4  April 1 - May 11 15 inches 3 10  Sept. 29 - Mar. 31 14 inches 10  Weakfish All year 13 inches 10  Weakfish All year 13 inches 1  White perch All year 8 inches None  Winter flounder Feb. 11 - Apr. 10 12 inches 2  Shark, tuna & billfish  Nov. 30; other gears year around follow required to fish for blue crabs and clams  Hard clams All year 1.5 inches 100/resident; 50/non-resident			Black drum	All year	16 inches	3
Red drum All year 20 - 27 inches may be retained River herring (alewife & blueback) Scup All year 8 inches 50 Spanish mackerel All year 12 inches None Striped bass All year 12 inches None Striped bass All year 28 inches, except only 20 - 26 inch fish may be retained from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder Jan. 1 - Oct. 12 18.5 inches 4  April 1 - May 11 1 15 inches 3  Tautog April 1 - May 11 1 15 inches 3  Tautog July 1 - Aug. 31 14 inches 10  Weakfish All year 13 inches 1  White perch All year 8 inches None  Winter flounder Feb. 11 - Apr. 10 12 inches 2  None  None  None  None  None  Pots: Mar. 1 - Nov. 30; other gears year around flard-shell - 3.5 inches 1 bushel flores but crabs and clams  Hard clams All year 1.5 inches 100/resident; 50/non-resident; 50/non-			Black sea bass	Oct 11; Nov. 1 -	12.5 inches	25
Red drum All year 20 - 27 inches may be retained  River herring (alewife & blueback)  Scup All year 8 inches 50  Scup All year 14 inches 10  Spanish mackerel All year 12 inches None  Spotted seatrout All year 26 inch fish may be retained from July 1 - Aug 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder Jan. 1 - Oct. 12 18.5 inches 4  April 1 - May 11 15 inches 3  April 1 - May 31 15 inches 3  July 1 - Aug. 31 14 inches 10  Weakfish All year 13 inches 1  White perch All year 12 inches 2  Refer to Sharks & HMS Page  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  Hard clams All year 1.5 inches 100/resident; 50/non-resident			Bluefish	All year	None	10
Red drum  River retained  River herring (alewife & blueback)  Scup  All year  All year  Soup  All year  All year  All year  Spanish mackerel  Spotted seatrout  All year  All year  All year  Interpretation of the problem of the prob			Catfish (any species)	All year	None	None
Scup All year 8 inches 50  Spanish mackerel All year 14 inches 10  Spotted seatrout All year 12 inches 28 inches, except only 20-26 inch fish may be retained from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder Jan. 1 - Oct. 12 18.5 inches 4  April 1 - May 11 15 inches 3  Tautog April 1 - May 11 15 inches 3  Sept. 29 - Mar. 31 14 inches 10  Weakfish All year 13 inches 1  White perch All year 8 inches None  Winter flounder Feb. 11 - Apr. 10 12 inches 2  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  Hard clams All year 1.5 inches 100/resident; 50/non-resident			Red drum	All year	•	5
Spanish mackerel All year 14 inches 10 Spotted seatrout All year 12 inches None  Striped bass All year 28 inches, except only 20-26 inch fish may be retained from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder Jan. 1 - Oct. 12 18.5 inches 4  April 1 - May 11 15 inches 3 July 1 - Aug. 31 14 inches 10  Weakfish All year 13 inches 10  Weakfish All year 13 inches 1  White perch All year 8 inches None  Winter flounder Shark, tuna & billfish Refer to Sharks & HMS Page  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams All year 1.5 inches 100/resident; 50/non-resident  Hard clams All year 1.5 inches 100/resident; 50/non-resident				All year		
Striped bass  All year  Petalined from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder  Jan. 1 - Oct. 12  18.5 inches  4  April 1 - May 11  July 1 - Aug. 31  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  Fishing Guide page 18)  None  Weakfish  All year  None  None  None  None  None  None  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  All year  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 2 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 4 - Au			Scup	All year	8 inches	50
Striped bass  All year  Petalined from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder  Jan. 1 - Oct. 12  18.5 inches  4  April 1 - May 11  July 1 - Aug. 31  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  Fishing Guide page 18)  None  Weakfish  All year  None  None  None  None  None  None  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  All year  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 2 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 4 - Au	aters		Spanish mackerel	All year	14 inches	10
Striped bass  All year  Petalined from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay & their tribs.  Summer flounder  Jan. 1 - Oct. 12  18.5 inches  4  April 1 - May 11  July 1 - Aug. 31  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  Fishing Guide page 18)  None  Weakfish  All year  None  None  None  None  None  None  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  All year  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 2 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 1 - Aug. 4  July 3 - Aug. 4  July 4 - Au	M		Spotted seatrout	All year		None
Tautog  April 1 - May 11 15 inches 3  July 1 - Aug. 31 14 inches 10  Sept. 29 - Mar. 31 14 inches 10  Weakfish  All year 13 inches 1  White perch Winter flounder Shark, tuna & billfish  None  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  April 1 - May 11 15 inches 3  July 1 - Aug. 31 14 inches 10  None  8 inches None  None  Peeler - 3 inches Soft-shell - 3.5 inches Soft-shell - 3.5 inches Hard clams  All year 1.5 inches  100/resident; 50/non-resident	Tidal		Striped bass	All year	26 inch fish may be retained from July 1 - Aug. 31 in DE River, DE Bay &	only on spawning grounds April 1 - May 31 (see
Tautog  July 1 - Aug. 31 Sept. 29 - Mar. 31  Weakfish  All year  13 inches  1  White perch Winter flounder Shark, tuna & billfish  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  All year  All year  14 inches 10  None  None  None  None  Peb. 11 - Apr. 10 12 inches 2  Refer to Sharks & HMS Page  Pots: Mar. 1 - Peeler - 3 inches Soft-shell - 3.5 inches Hard-shell - 5 inches  100/resident; 50/non-resident			Summer flounder	Jan. 1 - Oct. 12	18.5 inches	4
White perch Winter flounder Shark, tuna & billfish  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  White perch All year Shark & inches Peb. 11 - Apr. 10 12 inches Refer to Sharks & HMS Page  Pots: Mar. 1 - Nov. 30; other gears year around Hard-shell - 3.5 inches Hard-shell - 5 inches  100/resident; 50/non- resident		6,6	Tautog	July 1 - Aug. 31	14 inches	10
Winter flounder Shark, tuna & billfish  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  Winter flounder Feb. 11 - Apr. 10 12 inches  Refer to Sharks & HMS Page  Pots: Mar. 1 - Nov. 30; other gears year around Hard-shell - 3.5 inches  1 bushel Hard-shell - 5 inches  100/resident; 50/non- resident			Weakfish	All year	13 inches	1
Shark, tuna & billfish  Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  Pots: Mar. 1 - Peeler - 3 inches  Nov. 30; other soft-shell - 3.5 inches  Hard clams  Pots: Mar. 1 - Peeler - 3 inches  Soft-shell - 3.5 inches  Hard-shell - 5 inches  100/resident; 50/non-resident			White perch	All year	8 inches	None
Note: A general fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and clams  Nov. 30; other gears year around Hard-shell - 5 inches  1 bushel Hard-shell - 5 inches  1 bushel Hard-shell - 5 inches				Feb. 11 - Apr. 10		
clams All year 1.5 inches resident		fishing license is now required to fish for blue crabs and	Blue crab	Nov. 30; other	Soft-shell - 3.5 inches	1 bushel
			Hard clams	All year	1.5 inches	
			Lobster	All year	3 3/8 - 5 1/4 inches	

	2010 Sharks and Highly Migratory Species (HMS)						
		Species	Open Season	Minimum Size	Daily Limit		
	J. mg	Spiny & smooth dogfish	All year	None	None		
		Blacktip shark, bull shark, great hammerhead, lemon shark, nurse shark, scalloped hammerhead, silky shark, smooth hammerhead, spinner shark, tiger shark	Jan. 1 -May 14; July 16 - Dec. 31	54 -inches FORK LENGTH	Boat anglers- only 1 shark of any species per vessel, except 1 additional bonnethead and 1 additional Atlantic sharpnose per angler onboard vessel.  Shore anglers - only of		
eral waters		Blue shark, oceanic white-tip shark, porbeagle, shortfin mako, thresher shark	All year	54 -inches FORK LENGTH	1 shark of any species per angler, except 1 additional bonnethead and one additional		
uired for fed		Atlantic sharpnose shark, blacknose shark, bonnethead, finetooth shark	All year	None	Atlantic sharpnose per angler onboard vessel.		
Sharks *- Special permit may be required for federal waters		Sandbar shark, sand tiger, Atlantic angel shark, basking shark, bigeye sand tiger, bigeye sixgill shark, bigeye thresher, bignose shark, Caribbean reef shark, Caribbean sharpnose	THESE SPECIES PROHIBITED		The sandbar & sand tiger are toothed sharks commonly taken in the nearshore waters of the state and are prohibited. Like all prohibited species, they must be immediately released to ensure the maximum probability of survival.		
		shark, dusky shark, Galapagos shark, longfin mako, narrowtooth shark, night shark, sevengill shark, sixgill shark, smalltail shark, whale shark, white shark					

## **Special Restrictions for Shark**

It is unlawful to fillet a shark prior to landing. A shark may be eviscerated prior to landing, but head, tail and fins must remain attached to the carcass.

It is unlawful to release a shark in a manner that will not ensure the sharks maximum probability of survival. It is unlawful to possess the fins from any shark prior to landing unless they are naturally attached to the body of the



Atlantic tunas, swordfish and billfish

\*All private vessel owners/operators recreationally fishing for and/or retaining regulated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (Atlantic tunas, sharks, swordfish and billfish) for personal use in the Atlantic Ocean must obtain an Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Angling Permit. Further limits and restrictions apply. Consult www.hmspermits.gov or call toll free (888) 872-8862 for specific information.